

Application No. 10/083711
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Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2P-10306-US01

Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Restriction Requirement of May 14, 2004, wherein election was required between the claims of group I (claims 1-31) and group II (claims 32-42). Applicants hereby provisionally elect the claims of group II, namely claims 32-42 which are directed to a stent. Claim 42 is withdrawn however as it is directed to a non-elected species. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the withdrawn claims in one or more subsequent divisional or continuation applications.

In addition to the identification of the claims of groups I and II, the Restriction Requirement, further indicated that group II contained three patentably distinct species: species A, corresponding to FIGs 14 and 15; species B, corresponding to FIG. 16; and species C corresponding to FIG. 17. Applicants provisionally elect species A corresponding to FIGs. 14 and 15.

Claim 32, as well as dependent claims 34-41, have been amended to recite a plurality of linkage members as provided for in the elected species.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing it is believed that the present application, with claims 32-41 is in condition for allowance. Early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

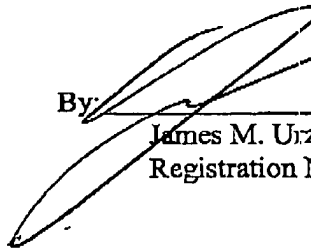
Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date:

6/7/04

By:


James M. Urzedowski
Registration No.: 48596

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000
Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185
Telephone: (952) 563-3000
Facsimile: (952) 563-3001

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